

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE		2. LOCATION		12. CONCLUSIONS	
20 Aug 52		FRESNO, CALIF		<input type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Was Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Aircraft	
3. TIME		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION		5. SOURCE	
2000-2100 LST		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Visual		<input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Radar <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Intercept Radar	
6. PREVIOUS		7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		10-15 sec		<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Civilian men <input type="checkbox"/> One	
9. COURSE		10. COMMENTS			
				1. Haze present much of observer's location, and seemed to obscure a short of object. 2. Jet-like sound heard and helicopter-like rotors visible.	
11. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING					
<p>Object approached in jerky, speedy movements, paused, moved erratically, then moved "backward" at high rate of speed. Shape was indiscernible, object emitted a "jet-type" noise.</p>					

UNITED STATES

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

WILSON PREST

California - Fresno area

111, 93d BN, Castle AF Base, California

29 392 52

20 Aug 52 to 17 Sep 52

13-0

Capt. R. G. Blos, Intelligence Officer

Civilian(s)

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During evening of 20 August 1952, two (2) civilians observed an airborne unidentified object in the vicinity of Fresno, California. They notified this headquarters of their observation, and an investigation was conducted, with findings as described in Part II.

APPROVED,

Charles J. Cooke

CHARLES J. COOKE

Lt. Col., USAF

Wing Intelligence Officer

1. Sketch, profile view (8 cys)
2. Sketch, horiz view (8 cys)
3. Sketch, object (6 cys)
4. Ltr, by Mr. Paxton (6 cys)
5. Cy of news item (6 cys)

STRUCTURE OF INFORMATION

WILLIAMSON
COLLECTOR

1. Description of Object: Observers first noted a loud jet-like sound, and then sighted what appeared to be an U/I aircraft approaching at relatively high speed. Object approached observers from the South, with a speedy, but jerky movement. It appeared to pause momentarily, and then moved erratically sideways, to its left, paused again, moved to the rear, paused a third time, moved back to the right to approximately its original course, paused for the fourth time, and then finally moved backwards, still at a high rate of speed, until it disappeared from view in the southern haze. See inclosure 2 for observers sketch of estimated route of object. Object was reported to be giving forth a very loud jet-type sound. Because of its erratic course, object was thought to be some form of helicopter. Observers could not see actual rotor blades, but thought they could discern a "sort of" fuselage, together with a pair of rotors tilted at opposite angles. Object did not approach close enough to permit more definite identification. The complete maneuver, as described above, appeared to have been executed without deviation of directional or longitudinal positions of the object. Color was not positively determined by observers, but was estimated to be brown.

2. Time: Object was sighted at 1330, Pacific daylight savings time, and stayed in view for approximately one (1) minute.

3. Manner of Observation: Observation was from the ground, and visual; no optical or electronic equipment was utilized. Initial attention was attracted by sound, not sight.

4. Location: Observers were standing in backyard of a private residence located in Northwest Fresno (approx. 36 47N 119 49W). Object was sighted due south from this position, at approximately 30 degrees from the horizon, but at an unknown distance.

5. Observers:

a. Mr. [REDACTED] Fresno, California: Has not previously reported unidentified sightings. A civilian pilot with approximately 150 hours flying time; three (3) years Civil Air Patrol experience (during World War II), and an extreme personal interest in aeronautical development. Has done a great deal of reading on "Flying Saucers" and related subjects. Presently employed as commercial artist with California Division of Highways, Fresno.

b. Mr. [REDACTED] Fresno, California: Close friend and associate worker of Mr. Paxton. Has degree in aeronautical engineering, but indicated no extraordinary interest in this subject. Investigating officer does not feel that G.C. DeMay would have been sufficiently impressed with this incident to notify the USAF, had he made the observation by himself, rather than in the company of Paxton.

c. Mrs. [REDACTED] Fresno, California (see inclosure 5): Mrs. [REDACTED] could not be contacted.

6. Weather Conditions: Clear skies - winds light and variable - less than 5 MPH. (As reported by Castle AF Base Weather Station).

7. Related Activities or Conditions: None determined.

8. Physical Evidence: None.

9. Immediate Interception or Identification Action: None.

10. Simultaneous Air Traffic: A check was made of air facilities located in the Fresno area to determine what known air traffic existed in the area at this time. Negative results were obtained. It was determined that a fairly large amount of air

Wing Intelligence
Castle AF Base, California

TR-149-52

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traffic over-flies the area while enroute to and from other points in the western portion of the United States, however, no local control or record of this type traffic is maintained by local authorities.

Richard G. Blos

RICHARD G. BLOS
Captain, USAF
Asst Wing Intelligence Officer